



**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2188
Docket No. 1081.1055**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Yoshio KITAMURA

Serial No. 08/932,427

Group Art Unit: 2188

Confirmation No. 5306

Filed: September 17, 1997

Examiner: Gary J. Portka

For: RAID APPARATUS AND ACCESS CONTROL METHOD THEREFOR WHICH
BALANCES THE USE OF THE DISK UNITS (AS AMENDED)

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed January 4, 2005, and having a period for response set to expire on April 4, 2005. A Petition for a one-month extension of time, together with the requisite fee for same, is submitted herewith, thereby extending the period for response to May 4, 2005.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is filed concurrently herewith.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.